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PIPELINE



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Students work together to camouflage a vehicle during an ANCOC exercise conducted jointly by the Army Guard and Reserve.

Photo by Tony DeBellis

Commander's Comments

We must maintain the edge



Brig. Gen. Thomas Sabo

The goal for every soldier, every leader is to maintain the edge as we reorganize and realign. This is not an easy tasking. Maintaining that edge will require every soldier's total commitment and total dedication to technical and tactical competence. In some cases this will require MOS retraining and in other situations, MOS refresher training.

Professional development is essential for the leaders of today and tomorrow. I know how difficult it is to sustain your military skills when there are serious and legitimate demands on your time to fulfill your obligations to your civilian employer, family, and community. But our nation cannot live in peace, freedom, and economic prosperity without her citizen soldiers standing guard.

As citizen soldiers, we have willingly accepted the awesome responsibility and obligation to protect and defend America's vital interests. In order to accomplish this mission, our soldiers and our units must be fully

trained. They must have the right equipment. The equipment must be properly maintained, always to the highest standard. If we do not take care of our equipment, how can we expect it to function properly, and, most importantly, be operationally ready?

Training is the glue that holds our Army together. We must always train to standard. We must train on those tasks not yet mastered. We must always be ready for we do not know when America will call upon her citizen soldiers.

We maintain the edge with realistic training, training that is done to standard. We maintain the edge with equipment that is operational, and properly maintained. We maintain the edge with the ever increasing support of our families. Our family support programs are critical to our capability to protect and defend America's vital interests. We are very grateful to all family members and friends who volunteer their time and

energy-towards making the Army a better place in which to live and work.

Maintaining the edge also means being physically fit. You are proud of your self, you are proud of your unit, and you are proud of the uniform you wear. Maintaining a high level of physical fitness is a personal responsibility. It is something you must personally involve yourself in on a daily basis. If you do, not only will you look good, but you'll feel good, and you'll be a soldier that America can be proud of.

America is looking for exceptional leaders. Leaders who are technically and tactically proficient. Leaders who are physically fit, who can handle the often strenuous demands of soldiering. Leaders who can maintain the edge. I encourage you to be one of those leaders, and to be all that you can be.

Sergeant Major's Comments

Why don't our soldiers get promoted?



Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence J. Davis

Over the past few years, I have had the opportunity to sit on a number of promotion boards. I have also heard a number of complaints from soldiers about why they weren't promoted. The disturbing truth is that a majority of soldiers are not promoted through no fault of the system.

The best qualified NCO to meet the needs of the 98th Division is the one who will be recommended for promotion to Sergeant First Class, Master Sergeant and Sergeant Major.

Before the board can determine that an NCO is among the best qualified for selection, they must first determine which NCOs are fully qualified. The board must satisfy itself that the NCO is qualified professionally, is physically fit, presents a soldierly appearance and is capable of performing duties of the position he or she is selected for. Other key factors they consider are

height/weight information, assignment patterns, military education, APFT performance, SQT scores and civilian education.

Consideration is accomplished in complete objectivity with the good of the service and the needs of the division being of primary importance.

Senior NCOs should be aware that specific statistical analysis or details of the board proceedings, pertaining to selection or non-selection of individual soldiers, whether recorded or unrecorded, will not be disclosed for any reason.

Read the regulation. It states very clearly what information is required in a promotion packet. It is the best guide available. Incomplete promotion packets are self-destructive. The people in your personnel section can be a great help in preparing for promotion.

Another problem with soldiers who are

not promoted is a lack of counseling. Soldiers must, by regulation, be counseled when they are not selected for promotion. It is a responsibility of senior NCOs to help your soldiers get promoted. Guide them through the process, which should be ongoing. Tell your people why they weren't promoted and exactly what they must do to insure that they are selected the next time around. Use the NCO Leader Self-Development Career Maps (see story) when counseling your soldiers. They are the newest and best tools available for career development.

As the saying goes, "We are the masters of our own destinies". It is my desire to see every deserving soldier be promoted, but the ultimate responsibility falls on the individual. To honestly point a finger, you may have to look in a mirror.

Chaplain's Corner

Slow down before it's too late

By Lt. Col. (Chaplain) Richard D. Brown

Lately I've been impressed by how many stressed out people I encounter every where I go. Many seem on the verge of "burn out". Rev. Charles Swindoll has described the problem in the following way. "Whoever dubbed our times "The Aspirin Age," didn't miss it by very far. It is correct to assume there has never been a more stress-ridden society than ours today. For many, gone are the days of enjoying bubbling brooks along winding pathways or taking long strolls near the beach. The relaxed bike rides through local parks have been replaced with the roar of a motorcycle whipping its way through

busy traffic. And the easy come, easy-go lifestyle of the farm has been preempted by a hectic urban family going in six different directions. . .existing on instant dinners, shouting matches, strained relationships, too little sleep, and too much television.

Add financial setbacks, failure at school, unanswered letters, obesity, loneliness, a ringing telephone, unplanned pregnancies, fear of cancer, misunderstanding, materialism, alcoholism, drugs, and occasional death; then subtract the support of the family unit, divide by dozens of opinions, multiply by 365 days a year, and you have the mak-

ing of madness! Stress has become a way of life; it is the rule rather than the exception."

No doubt we can all identify with this. We all feel the stress and find our own ways to cope with it as best as we can. As Summer is suddenly upon us, we are probably hoping we can get some R&R. We wait eagerly for it.

The ironic thing is that so many of us just get busier trying to have fun and never really rest. We work as hard at relaxing as we do at working. If you identify with that, I hope you'll stop to reconsider and make time in your hectic schedule just to be quiet. Make

some time this Summer to stroll (not run) on the beach. Sit by a bubbling brook. Or find another way to just be peaceful for awhile. Our inner beings seem to long for that.

In fact, it wouldn't hurt to take some time each day to be quiet and to feed your spiritual self in whatever way fits for you in light of your own religious or spiritual tradition. Such times are great stress relievers. We owe it to ourselves and to our loved ones to unwind from unrelenting stress in healthy ways (not in ways that make for even more problems). Take some time for personal and spiritual renewal this summer and stay safe.

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'Cold Warrior' Challenges 3/391 soldiers

By Tony DeBellis

Soldiers annually get together for weapons qualification and Common Task Testing (CTT). "It's an annual requirement, but nobody said it had to be boring," said Sgt. 1st Class James Hurley, Assistant Operations Sergeant for the 3rd Battalion, 391st Regiment.

Lt. Col. Harry Kroll, commander of the 3/391, took his soldiers to Seneca Army Depot in the middle of an Upstate New York winter to meet their annual requirements with a few surprises added.

The soldiers reported for "Operation Cold Warrior" well prepared, wearing cold weather clothing complete with "Mickey Mouse" boots. Also added to the inventory were cross-country skis and snow shoes.

The first day of the weekend was spent on weapons qualification, a Leadership Reaction Course, and an exercise in patrol and movement complete with a surprise ambush by opposing forces. Soldiers spent the night in tents on the cold, hard ground.

The second day saw the soldiers test their cross-country skiing ability and rappelling skills.

This was quite a change of pace for a unit consisting of five drill sergeant companies and two instructor companies. "I wanted something different," said Kroll. "This gave them an opportunity to see how they work together," he added.

The unit was originally scheduled to go to Ft. Bragg, N.C. but when their plans were suddenly changed, they moved to Seneca Army Depot because of its location and availability. ■

tion Course, and an exercise in patrol and movement complete with a surprise ambush by opposing forces. Soldiers spent the night in tents on the cold, hard ground.



Staff Sgt. Peggy Broderick gets a helping hand at the Leadership Reaction Course during the 3/391st FTX. Photo by Tony DeBellis



1st Lt. Thomas Schmitz (foreground) keeps a watchful eye while his platoon is on patrol during "Cold Warrior". Photo by Tony DeBellis

Policy change tightens drill limit

A recent interim change to Army Regulation 140-1 disallows any flexibility to the 48 drills per fiscal year limit.

Previously, soldiers between units were permitted to exceed the limit during the transitional period. An example would be a soldier drilling with both the old and new units in the same month.

The change to the regulation ensures that no exceptions will be made. Any number of drills over the allowed 48 will not be paid, and will be counted as for retirement points only.

Master Sgt. P.G. Ralph, Finance Operations Chief for the 98th Division, said that the strict limits require attention both from the individual soldier and from his or her

first line supervisor.

"The number of drills to date is reflected on the Leave and Earning Statement. Soldiers and their supervisors need to be aware of where they stand regarding the number of drills performed," Ralph said.

She also noted that many such problems occur at the end of the fiscal year—when soldiers attempting to make up a September drill in October cross the boundaries between years.

"The make-up drill done in October counts for that new year. Soldiers unaware of this often find themselves eleven months later with excess drills."

The change, Interim Change 101, is effective as of February 1992. ■

College education offered on television

Washington, D.C.—May 5, 1992—In today's uncertain military environment, a quality education is going to be a valuable, if not vital asset: the key to advancement through the ranks or success outside the service.

Now, the military community has a way for military men and women to make sure the demands of home or duty do not stand in the way of earning a college degree.

Credit courses and degree programs from major American universities are now being delivered by cable television and direct satellite broadcast to 19 million American homes by Mind Extension University (ME/U): The Education Network, a pioneer in distance education.

As a result of the affiliation with DANTES, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, service members are eligible for tuition assistance, as set by their services, for college level courses completed via the ME/U network. ME/U and its affiliated institutions are part of the DANTES Independent Study Program. To enroll, service members should visit their education center.

"No matter where you are, we make your home or office a classroom," said Glenn R. Jones, CEO of Jones Intercable, Inc., one of the largest cable television operators in the U.S. and founder of ME/U, one of the fastest growing basic cable channels in the country. "Our goal is to make quality education equally available to everyone, regardless of where they live or their situation in life."

ME/U offers undergraduate and graduate degree instruction from a coalition of 20 colleges and universities. Students participate in lectures, complete the same course work as their on-campus counterparts and communicate with instructors by mail, telephone, fax and computer. Courses can be taken to fulfill degree requirements or to

meet other academic or personal goals.

For example, at Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, Montana, an average of six service members are enrolled in MBA classes each semester. "Thanks to ME/U, I'm working on an MBA degree from Colorado State University even though I'm stationed in the middle of Montana," said Air Force Lieutenant Steve Manley. "And no matter where I go next, ME/U and my course work will follow me. It's a portable education system."

Students can earn a Bachelor's Degree in Management from the University of Maryland University College or a Master of Business Administration from Colorado State University's American Assembly Collegiate Schools of Business-accredited College of Business. ME/U also enables educators and trainers to earn a Master of Arts degree in Education and Human Development with an emphasis on education technology from The George Washington University.

Available through cable television in nearly 6,500 U.S. communities and by satellite to virtually all of North America, ME/U classes air 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Those bases unable to receive the ME/U network through basic cable television at this time may receive the network through their base's Commander's Channel. For students overseas or where cable and satellite are not available, ME/U offers courses on videotape.

"We've erased the barriers to lifelong learning," said Jones. "If job or family keeps you from spending time on campus, we have a solution: we bring the campus to you."

Additional information about the educational opportunities available through ME/U is obtainable by calling 1-800-777-6463. Information about tuition assistance is available through local military education services offices. ■

ANCOC**NCO Leadership skills tested**

Concentration is intense in the face of this ANCOC student. Photo by Tony DeBellis

By Tony DeBellis

It was so cold, steam would rise from your trousers when you stood by a fire. The camouflage would run down your face from the heavy rains. You were almost always up to your ankles in water. This is how 47 Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers spent a weekend recently.

The Empire State Military Academy (ESMA) Branch School No. 5 and the 1159th United States Army Reserve Forces School held a joint Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course, Field Training Exercise (FTX) at the 38 acre Ransomville Training site. The students completed the classroom phase of ANCOC on weekends prior to the FTX. This exercise was the final step of Phase I for these soldiers who were graduated after successfully completing the FTX.

"This is a great example of the 'One

Army' concept at work," said Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Lyness, NCOIC of Branch School No. 5. "We had our instructors drill together during the planning stages," he added.

The training was done "round robin" style with students covering a variety of subjects such as NBC, camouflage, radio procedures, squad tactics, and others.

Students performing squad tactics were treated to a surprise attack by opposing forces. At the completion of this course, the students would design a course for the next squad.

Conducting training in an area such as the Ransomville site allows students to prepare for a tactical mission while in a field environment. Meals were also eaten in the field.

"There has been a great emphasis on



Students anticipate an ambush by "enemy" soldiers during the squad tactics phase of the ANCOC exercise. Photo by Tony DeBellis

NCOES over the past years," said Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Palmesano, Assistant Director of Enlisted Courses for the 1159th. "People going through ANCOC are better prepared than before," he added.

After successfully completing the exercise, the students were given an appropriate

graduation ceremony. Maj. Gen. John Cudmore, commander of the 42nd Infantry Division, was the guest speaker at the reception held at the Connecticut Street Armory in Buffalo, N.Y. Families were also invited to the reception which featured music by the 199th Army Band. ■



Master Sgt. Robert Dinkle and Master Sgt. Donald King brief students during the ANCOC training exercise.

Photo by Tony DeBellis

464th Medics aid helicopter crash victims

By Robert Call Jr.

Instincts and military training took over for three 464th Engineer Battalion, 98th Division (Training), Schenectady, N.Y. medics as they treated two of the most seriously injured victims of the helicopter crash at the "Flight '91 Airshow" in Schenectady, N.Y. on August 4.

"It was surprising how much came back," 464th medic Private First Class David Merritt said about treating the victims.

Merritt, of Cohoes, and fellow medics Private First Class Brian Rockwell and Specialist Stephen Palso, both of Schenectady, were three of the first to arrive on the scene of the Canadian Navy Seaking helicopter crash.

The accident, which was well-publicized in the local media, occurred at 11:15 a.m. and involved five Canadian military crewman, with two victims suffering serious injuries.

Moments after Canadian Navy Seaking helicopter No. 439 bounced off the runway scattering debris from the impact along the airfield, Merritt, Rockwell and Palso raced to the scene to aid in rescue efforts.

"I was just scared and said, 'Oh my God,'" Rockwell said.

In the four minutes it took the medics to push their way through the spectators and clear a direct path to the victims, many thoughts went through their minds.

"We were worried kids were aboard," Palso explained. "Kids were getting rides in other helicopters and that's what we thought it was. We thought we might have mass casualties."

Merritt, who jumped from atop an ambulance and frantically yelled for his fellow medics to respond to the crash, said, "Your whole body is shaking and the adrenalin is flowing."

But upon reaching the victims, Palso said, "Once we got to the victims, we did what we had to do and we used what we could."

Treating the pilot, who had suffered a spinal injury and was experiencing shock, the medics used ponchos in place of blankets to cover the victims.

Also treating another crewman suffering

from a broken pelvis and internal injuries, the 464th medics applied a seat collar to treat the broken pelvis while applying a spinal board to aid the pilot.

After further examination of the pilot and crewman, the 464th medics stabilized the victims.

By this time, approximately 10 minutes had elapsed and the Mohawk Emergency Medical Squad arrived on the scene to assist as the two victims the 464th medics had treated were airlifted to Albany Medical Center.

The two victims remained at Albany Medical Center for one week before being discharged. The other three airmen aboard suffered minor injuries and were released

the same day of the accident.

Meanwhile, Rockwell, Merritt and Palso said they were happy to help in the rescue and use their first-aid skills.

"It felt good because it was our first experience like that and we worked together," Rockwell said.

Palso agreed, "Everybody worked in sync."

At the time of the accident, Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson Kevin Beaudin would not speculate on the cause of the accident only stating, "The pilot was never able to arrest the descent."

Shortly after the crash, the F.A.A. turned over the investigation to Canadian authorities.

The 464th medics were commended by the New York State Capital Group, Civil Air Patrol and in a letter, "Flight '91 Project" officer Captain Charles D. Cohen wrote, "The various Army units that assisted us and the 'Flight '91 Airshow' can only be described as outstanding."

All three are expected to be recognized by the U.S. Army.

Rockwell, 18, has been a reservist with the 464th since January and is a student at Schenectady Community College. Merritt, 23, is a civilian mechanic and has been with the 464th since October 1990 while Palso, 20, is a convenience store clerk and has been with the unit since December 1989. ■



(L-R) Private First Class Brian Rockwell, Specialist Stephen Palso and Private First Class David Merritt of the 464th Engineer Battalion, 98th Division (Training), Schenectady, N.Y. view a Federal Aviation Administration produced videotape of the recent helicopter crash at the "Flight '91 Airshow." Photo by Robert Call

AUSA Editorials

The Guard and Reserves—how deep to cut

The announcement by Defense Secretary Dick Cheney that reduction in America's military forces would mean cutting back some 830 reserve and national guard units created a big furor all around the country. Nearly 140,000 members of all services would be affected by Cheney's proposed cut if it is approved by Congress.

Mr. Cheney and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Colin Powell explained the rationale for making these cuts at this time. They told a Pentagon press conference: "Eighty percent of the Reserve and National Guard units that are being taken out were

part of that force that was intended to go to Europe and support the active force. Those active units are out. Now we've identified the reserve components that support them, and we're recommending they come out as well."

Criticism of this major reduction in the reserve forces was quick to come—both from state capitols and from Capitol Hill. With the cuts affecting reserves in all 50 states, many in Congress were sensitive to the negative economic impact in their home districts. Cheney and Powell argued the cuts in reserves were needed to balance reductions that were well underway in the

active armed forces.

Although the announced reductions are planned over the next two years and are widely spread across the nation, there is no doubt that some small communities will be hit especially hard. The loss of part-time salaries and the closing of many local armories will hit more than a few depressed areas.

There are other considerations too, that contribute to the intensity of the debate. One of these is the point raised by several governors that big cuts in the national guard will impair their ability to employ these forces

in disaster relief or riot control operations. It was also charged that the administration was seeking political advantage from the cuts—a charge strongly disavowed by the defense secretary at the time of the announcement.

Whichever way the decision goes, it won't be easy. The big problem for members of Congress, who must vote on the matter, is that reducing defense spending means cutting people and things which will translate to an economic impact back home. Unfortunately, they can't have it both ways. ■

Iran rearms—another Middle East Monster

There is growing concern in United States & throughout Middle East & Southwest Asia over a massive arms buildup in Iran. Full extent to which the mullahs have been able to rebuild their military force since the beating it took in the eight-year war with Iraq is not known, but there is ample evidence that they are making a massive effort to become the major power in the region.

Official Iranian government spokesmen have admitted to a \$10 billion, five-year program of rearmament, but other sources—the U.S. CIA included—say that's just the tip

of the iceberg. One Iranian opposition group, the People's Mojahedin, claims that the regime is engaged in a military buildup that started in 1989 and will consume about \$50 billion by 1994.

What concerns Iran's neighbors more than the dollar amounts being spent on arms are the types and numbers of weapons and systems being purchased—far exceeding Iran's legitimate self-defense needs. The arsenal that was depleted in the eight-year Iran-Iraq Wars is being restored by purchases of Chinese F-7 fighters. Soviet-made MiG-29

fighters and Su-24 fighter-bombers and North Korean Scud B and C surface-to-surface missiles. Arab leaders are even more concerned over Teheran's reported plans to buy three Soviet Kilo-class submarines which would allow Iran to control the straits of Hormuz through which passes the bulk of the Western world's oil supply.

Ironically, the countries that would have the most to lose in an Iranian power play—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates—cannot reach agreement on cooperative security

measures. Until such time as those members of the Gulf Cooperation Council can get their act together, they will be individually and collectively subject to the hegemonous machinations of Iran or Iraq or whoever else might desire to take control of the world's largest source of oil.

To protect its own substantial security interests in that part of the world, the United States of America needs to strengthen its security ties in the region—something it can't do by putting its ships in mothballs, grounding its pilots and dismantling its Army. ■

Division runner nears 1,000 mile mark



Lt. Col. Schumacher paces himself during the John F. Kennedy Memorial Run.

By Laura D. Kenney

Running a 50 mile race is not a feat most people would even consider doing once in a lifetime. But Lt. Col. Fred Schumacher has already done just that—18 times. (18 starts, 17 finishes)

Schumacher, Inspector General of the 98th Division (Training) has been competing in the John F. Kennedy 50 Mile Run since 1974. The race, America's oldest ultramarathon, is now in its 29th year. Beginning in Boonsboro, MD the race finishes in Williamsport, MD.

The course, through the scenic countryside of western Maryland, features 15 miles on the Appalachian Trail, 26 miles on the towpath of the C and O Canal and 8 miles of paved roads. Runners have a maximum of 14 hours to finish this event.

Schumacher's best time for the race was nine hours, 57 minutes in 1984. His most recent performance was clocked at ten hours, 42 minutes. The 44 year old "ultramara-thoner" took up this challenging competition upon returning from Germany after completing his first Active Duty assignment.

"I found I was too slow for the college cross country or track teams, so I was looking for an event which called more for endurance than speed," he said, laughing. "The JFK 50 mile with its 14 hour time limit was just that, and in 1974 it was my first competitive running event outside the Army PT test."

Schumacher belongs to the "750 Mile Club" composed of only eight people who completed the race 15 or more times. His

motivation for continuing this grueling event is "... the challenge in the fact that there's a clear goal for which I can prepare, and knowing that the more thoroughly I prepare, the better I will do."

He begins preparing nine months ahead of the event, which is held every November. His training includes weight training, the Army standby of pushups and situps, and running an average of 20-25 miles a week. As November approaches he increases the weekly distance to 35 miles by September and 45 miles in October.

"I also enter local races, just for the fun and to keep the training honest. My most recent races were the Run for the Kids (5mile) and the Run for the Bus (5K). This extensive training program has the added benefit of making the PT test easier."

Another plus to his running is his family's involvement. His father, who resides in Gettysburg, PA is the support team for the 50 mile race. "Every 15-20 miles or so he meets me with water, Gatorade, food and a change of clothes if needed, and provides words of encouragement."

LTC Schumacher is not the only family member interested in running. Daughter Kathryn, four years old, eagerly awaits the start of the summer running season to participate in the 200 and 400m dashes. Schumacher plans to continue running the 50 mile event at least until getting to the 1,000 mile club, and who knows, maybe Kathryn will be taking to the trails with him.

Soldiers win World Marksmanship Titles

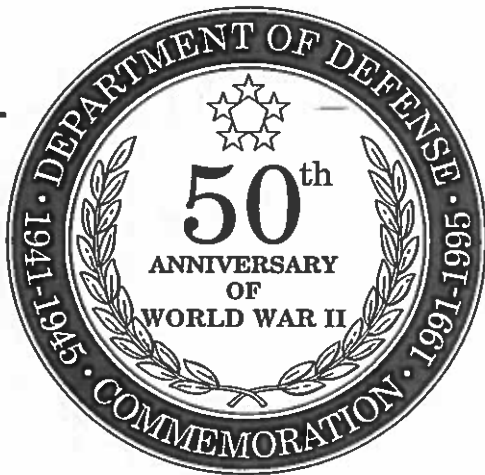
By Mickey C. Treat



Chief Warrant Officer Daniel J. MacLaughlin sights in during a pistol competition. photo by Tony DeBellis

Sgt. 1st Class Douglas J. Brown of HHC 98th Division helped lead a team of soldiers from the 98th Division to Worldwide Marksmanship titles in the 1992 USAR Postal Matches. During this competition Brown took 1st place worldwide in the .22 Caliber Pistol and Air Pistol competitions. Brown also won a world title as best new shooter in the Individual Air Rifle competition. Other 98th Division soldiers also helped win world titles.

In the four man competitions, the 98th Division team of Sgt. 1st Class Douglas J. Brown, Chief Warrant Officer Daniel J. MacLaughlin, Maj. Paul T. Hansen and Sgt. 1st Class George A. Hyder won the team title for the .22 Caliber Pistol match. The same four man team also won the world team title for the Air Pistol competition. 98th Division soldiers also dominated the worldwide competition in the Individual .22 Caliber competition. The 98th placed four soldiers in the top five. Maj. Paul T. Hansen took 2nd place. Sgt. 1st Class George A. Hyder took 3rd and Chief Warrant Officer Daniel J. MacLaughlin finished 5th. In the Individual Air Pistol competition Hansen and MacLaughlin finished 2nd and 3rd. The 98th Division Marksmanship Team will be competing at the United States Army Combat Arms Championships May 27th-31st, 1992. An update will be in the next pipeline to let you know how they did.



A Division remembers

The 98th at war

a historical remembrance of World War II

WWII Veterans hold reunion

98th Infantry Division World War II veterans gathered recently to renew old friendships and swap "war stories".

They met in Asheville, N.C. in May amidst the worst snow storm to hit North Carolina in memory. Ninety-four veterans and spouses attended the reunion and, in spite of the weather, seemed to enjoy themselves.

Veterans brought souvenirs and mementos of the war which were placed on display to be viewed by all attendees. The guests were treated to a tour of the Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Biltmore Estate.

During the welcome reception, veterans were greeted with comments and visits from North Carolina State Senator C.W. Hardin and current and past Asheville mayors.

The reunion banquet was addressed by Gen. Donald V. Bennett, who spoke on defense issues facing the United States through 1995. Col. Michael Dunlavey, Assistant Division Commander of the 98th Division, spoke on the 98th Division today and presented the veterans with certificates signed by Brig. Gen. Thomas Sabo, current commander of the 98th Division.

Guests also received copies of letters from President George Bush and Gen. Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, commemorating the 98th Division's involvement in WWII.

The final order of business was deciding on a location for next year's reunion. The current headquarters of the 98th Division, Rochester, N.Y., was chosen as the site of the 1993 reunion. ■



98th Division soldiers marching off to World War II.

(Historical photo)

New software speeds pay for soldiers

By Sharon Herendeen

U.S. Soldiers will no longer receive a LES as we know it today. Feb. 1, 1993, the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force will be using Joint Service Software to pay service members.

With the new software, active duty and reserves will be paid with the same system. All pay will come out of Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

When reservists attend drills, they will sign in on an attendance form. The information will then be electronically transmitted

to DFAS and fed into a master pay file.

"The current master pay file is updated six times a month. When JSS is in effect, it will be updated nightly," said Master Sgt. P.G. Ralph from Resource Management at 98th Division (TNG).

A self-mailer will be sent to the soldier containing pay advice. Now soldiers will be totally in charge of their pay account. The unit will no longer retain LES information.

All active duty tours will be paid at the end of each tour. A tour of seven days or less

will be electronically input by the unit. Tours of eight days or more will be input as the soldiers outprocess from the tour.

The pay software currently used by the Army was implemented in 1968. The current Air Force pay software was used as a model for the joint system software.

Both federal and state income tax will be taken out of all pay. The rate will increase so that it will be closer to civilian employer rates rather than the nominal amount currently deducted.

"The critical thing is that each soldier must have their correct address on file," said Ralph. If you change your address you must not only change the alert roster but also your pay account.

The whole idea of the new software is to improve the pay system. One general noted that the objective is to drill one weekend and get paid the next weekend. ■

2/390 holds second annual alumni ball



Past commanders of the 2/390 from L. to R. Lt. Col. John Roman, Maj. Gen. Norbert Rappl, Lt. Col. Eugene Sydor, Col. Lawrence Feasel. Photo by Bruce Tyo

By Morris Lew

On 9 May 1992 a new tradition began that many soldiers hope will continue forever. That was the day the 2nd Battalion, 390th Regiment, 2nd Brigade of Newark, N.Y. held their second annual alumni military ball.

Over 100 past and present members of the battalion and their guests met at the Quality Inn, Newark to see old friends, re-live fond memories and to ensure that the heritage and the traditions of the battalion not only live on but grow.

As a former company commander in the unit, I had the privilege of attending. It was a great feeling to see so many people I had served with. We talked about the many good times we had. We laughed at some of the foolish things we did. We remembered how proud we were of the things our unit had accomplished. It was a great time.

Guest speaker for the evening was Maj. Gen. Norbert Rappl, former 98th Division Commander who also happens to be a former battalion commander of the Newark battalion. He spoke about how important tradition in the military was, especially in the Reserve. He praised the people involved in conducting the banquets, past Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Eugene Sydor who initiated the banquet last year and the current Battalion Commander Lt. Col. John Roman who has carried on the tradition. He encouraged all reserve units to nurture their traditions.

A unit's heritage is a key building block of its success. The Newark Battalion has found a way to emphasize this strong foundation. This emphasis is helping build an even stronger unit that will continue to surpass previous performances and create an even greater heritage for its future members. ■

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